

Jesus meets Peter and his friends in some very unusual circumstances!



Have a try at some of these challenges:

Challenge 1: Lick your nose with your tongue.

Challenge 2: Lick the outside of your elbow with your tongue.

Challenge 3: Stand on one leg, without moving, with your eyes closed.

Some things are very difficult - and some are impossible! Today's story from the Bible is all about a time when Jesus' friends were in a boat in a storm and something impossible and amazing happened!

Watch together: watch Emma telling the story, the link is on the website or for older children <https://youtu.be/HG6I4fkB6wE>

Chat together: You can find this story in the Bible in Matthew 14:22 - 33.

I wonder what you find most surprising about this story?

If you were there do you think you would have stepped out of the boat?

I wonder what you think this story is saying about Jesus?

What do you think God is saying to you through this story?

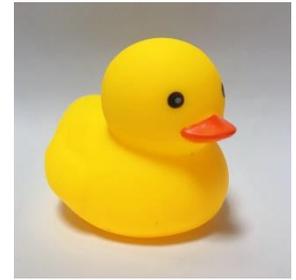
When we follow God, sometimes he does ask us to do things that we think are scary. But if we keep our eyes on Jesus, and if we trust him and remember how much he loves us, then he will help us to do things - even things we might think are impossible!

Think together: Fill a bowl with water and find some of these items - paper, small toy, balloon, coin, paper clip, polystyrene, pencil and other small items. Have a think, which of these things will float and which will sink? Try them out to see!

Paper should float (you might need to fold it or make a paper boat!) and the coin will definitely sink. Now try balancing the coin on the paper - does it still float? Peter had to trust Jesus and it was trusting him which helped him walk on the water. Like the coin that doesn't float without the paper, Peter couldn't stay afloat (walking on the water) without trusting in Jesus.

What helps us to trust in Jesus? Have a think about some of the things Jesus did and who he is ...

Pray together: Now, if you have some hook-a-ducks you could use them for praying today but you probably don't! So you need to find 5 of something which floats that you can write the numbers 1 - 5 on (it could just be some pieces of paper) and put them in a bowl of water and use a sieve or a fishing net for pulling them out!



Take it in turns to hook/pull out one of the items and look at the number. Each number corresponds to a prayer starter that you can finish, thinking about the story today:

- 1 - Thank you Jesus, for
- 2 - Jesus, please help me to
- 3 - I can trust in you Jesus because
- 4 - I find it hard to trust when
- 5 - Jesus I'm sorry for

When everyone has had a few turns why not finish your prayers thanking God for loving us and hearing us and then end with a big AMEN!

Remember together:

Find some paper and if you have it, some blue paint, or blue crayons or paper. Take off one of your shoes and put your foot on the centre of the paper and draw around it.

Use blue paint to paint the outside of the paper so that it looks like sea all around the foot shape. Or use crayons or stick pieces of blue paper to make the same effect.

Now decorate the foot, with zigzags or patterns using crayons (or glitter!) You should now have a footprint in the sea to remind you that God wants us to trust him, wherever we are and that we need to step out in faith!

You might like to write this verse on your picture:

Show me the way I should go, for to You I entrust my life. (Psalm 143:8)

